

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 046192
ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 SS-15 INR-10 NSC-05 DODE-00
CIAE-00 ACDA-12 /058 R

DRAFTED BY PM/DCA:MARIETTI:ILB

APPROVED BY PM:JKAHAN

EA/ANP:TWAJDA

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R 222301Z FEB 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

S E C R E T STATE 046192

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, XO

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH AUSTRALIA ON INDIAN OCEAN
ARMS TALKS

REFERENCES: A. STATE 28869; B. STATE 33931

1. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR COTTRILL MET, AT HIS REQUEST, WITH PM DEPUTY DIRECTOR KAHAN ON FEBRUARY 21. COTTRILL RECALLED THAT DIRECTOR GELB HAD SUGGESTED US-AUSTRALIAN CONSULTATIONS ON THE LAND-BASED STRIKE AIRCRAFT ISSUE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN TALKS (REFTEL A). CANBERRA HAS ACCEPTED THIS SUGGESTION AND COTTRILL WISHED TO DISCUSS THE MODALITIES OF THE CONSULTATIONS, INCLUDING AGENDA, TIMING AND LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION.

2. KAHAN REITERATED GELB'S STATEMENT THAT THE US WISHES TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE AUSTRALIANS IN DEVELOPING A POSITION ON THE LBSA ISSUE AND HOPES THAT THE TWO SIDES WILL USE THESE CONSULTATIONS TO EXAMINE IN DETAIL THE

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OPTIONS WHICH THE US HAS PREVIOUSLY DEVELOPED AND EXPLAINED TO AUSTRALIA (REFTEL B). WE ARE ALSO PREPARED TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY ANY NEW OPTIONS WHICH THE AUSTRALIANS MIGHT SUGGEST.

3. KAHAN SUGGESTED THAT MEETING COULD TENTATIVELY BE SCHEDULED FOR THIRD WEEK IN MARCH IF THAT IS ACCEPTABLE

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA. COTTRILL COMMENTED THAT THE AUSTRALIANS WOULD PREFER THAT THE MEETING BE HELD IN WASHINGTON. THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION REMAINS TO BE WORKED OUT, ALTHOUGH KAHAN COMMENTED THAT US SIDE WOULD PROBABLY INCLUDE REPS FROM STATE, ACDA, AND DOD.

4. COTTRILL UNDERTOOK TO PASS ABOVE TO CANBERRA AND INFORM DEPARTMENT OF GOA VIEWS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 22 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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